



PATENT
Customer No.: 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0005-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

John BUTLER et al.

Application No.: 10/635,017

Filed: August 6, 2003

For: WOUND RETRACTOR

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)
) Group Art Unit: 3733
)
) Examiner: A. Ramana
)
) Confirmation No.: 7577
)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the listed documents on the attached IDS Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a fee of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p).

Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed. Copies of the listed non-U.S. documents: WO 95/24864 and WO 03/061480 are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

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02 FC:1806

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This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 18, 2007

By: 

Roland G. McAndrews
Reg. No. 41,450

Complete if Known**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Application Number

10/635,017

Filing Date

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First Named Inventor

John Butler

Art Unit

3733

Examiner Name

A. Ramana

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U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.